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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Mail Stop: PCT

Saburo MATSUOKA et al.

Serial No. NEW

Attorney Docket No. 2005 0628A

Filed April 13, 2005

ULTRA FINE GRAIN STEEL HAVING NITRIDE LAYER [Corresponding to PCT/JP2003/013308 Filed October 17, 2003]

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the interest of compact prosecution, please amend the present application as follows: